



What's New – April 2006

Significant Documents

America's Immigration Quandary: No Consensus On Immigration Problem Or Proposed Fixes.
[Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Hispanic Center, Joint Survey]
March 2006.

<http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/63.pdf> [pdf format, 84 pages]

Hurricane Katrina: Comprehensive Policies and Procedures Are Needed to Ensure Appropriate
Use of and Accountability
for International Assistance.

[United States General Accounting Office, GAO-06-460] April 2006.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06460.pdf> [pdf format, 47 pages]

International Remittances: Different Estimation Methodologies Produce Different Results.

[United States General Accounting Office, GAO-06-210] March 2006.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d06210.pdf> [pdf format, 58 pages]

Iraqi Perspectives Project: A View of Operation Iraqi Freedom from Saddam's Senior Leadership.
[United States Joint Forces Command, Joint Center for Operational Analysis and Lessons
Learned, Study]

Web-posted March 2006.

<http://www.jfcom.mil/newslink/storyarchive/2006/ipp.pdf> [pdf format, 230 pages]

The Judiciary and Economic Development.

[The Brookings Institution, John M. Olin Law & Economics Working Paper No. 287] March 2006.

<http://www.brookings.edu/views/papers/200603dam.pdf> [pdf format, 41 pages]

Kim Jong Il and North Korea: The Leader and the System. [U.S. Army War
College, Strategic Studies Institute Monograph] March 2006.

<<http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/pdf/files/PUB644.pdf>>

[pdf format, 58 pages]

Item# 06AD070 MPP Theme: 1E Geo: Asia

Measuring Progress in Stabilization and Reconstruction.

[United States Institute of Peace, Stabilization and Reconstruction Series No. 1] March 2006.

<http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/srs/srs1.pdf> [pdf format, 16 pages]

The National Security Strategy of the United States of America.

[United States National Security Council, Second-Term National Security Strategy] March 2006.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/nsc/nss/2006/nss2006.pdf> [pdf format, 54 pages]

Preventing Catastrophic Nuclear Terrorism.

[Council On Foreign Relations, Council Special Report No. 11] March 2006.

<http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/NucTerrCSR.pdf> [pdf format, 44 pages]

Progress on Global Access to HIV Antiretroviral Therapy: A Report on "3 by 5" and Beyond.

[World Health Organization / UNAIDS Report] March 2006.

http://www.who.int/hiv/fullreport_en_highres.pdf [pdf format, 84 pages]

Transnational Organized Crime: Principal Threats and U.S. Responses.
[CRS Report for Congress, RL33335] March 20, 2006.
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL33335.pdf> [pdf format, 24 pages]

U.S. Occupation Assistance: Iraq, Germany and Japan Compared.
[CRS Report for Congress, RL33331] March 23, 2006.
<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/RL33331.pdf> [pdf format, 16 pages]

Who Are Iraq's New Leaders? What Do They Want?
[United States Institute of Peace, Special Report 160] March 2006.
<http://www.usip.org/pubs/specialreports/sr160.pdf> [pdf format, 20 pages]

Winners and Losers: Impact of the Doha Round on Developing Countries.
[Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Trade, Equity, and Development Project Report]
Web-posted March 2006.
<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/BWfinal.pdf> -- Black & White
<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/Winners.Losers.final2.pdf> -- Color [pdf format, 117 pages]

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

AFTER THE BUSH DOCTRINE: THE FIGHT FOR REPUBLICAN FOREIGN POLICY

Kurlantzick, Joshua

New Republic February 13, 2006

Summary: The author notes that the Republican Party overwhelmingly supported the foreign policy goals of the Bush Administration for the four years following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, but perceived problems with the conduct of the war on terror and the Iraq war have caused a split in the party on foreign policy matters. The Bush doctrine, which Kurlantzick describes as relying on unilateral power, preemptive force and a high priority on promoting market-oriented democracies to counter terrorism, remained strong until "failure to find weapons of mass destruction and the rise of a seemingly unexpected insurgency sapped much of its power." Kurlantzick describes the three foreign policy camps and the key players from both the executive and legislative branches who hold these varying views. Despite the growth of these new schools of thought within the Republican Party, the Bush doctrine still has support, Kurlantzick says, but in light of the 2008 presidential elections, "selling the continuation of the Bush Doctrine to a republican base scarred by Iraq and moving toward nationalism might seem a tall order."

CAN PR VOTING SERVE AS A SHELTER AGAINST DECLINING TURNOUT? EVIDENCE FROM SWISS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Milner, Henry; Ladner, Andreas

International Political Science Review vol. 27, no. 1, January 2006, pp. 29-45

Summary: Does an electorate that uses proportional representation have better voter turnout than those who utilize majority voting to elect a single representative for their district? Which public is more politicized? To find out, the authors analyze data from a 1998 survey of municipalities in Switzerland, comparing their findings with a previous study they conducted a decade earlier. In the intervening decade, several Swiss municipalities switched from proportional representation to majority votes. The authors find that while majority voting appears to increase turnout in larger cities, it seems to decrease turnout in smaller municipalities. The popular vote also appears to result in a more "politicized" but less "politically literate" society. The authors concede that their findings are based on aggregate data, so future studies will be needed to further articulate these provisional conclusions.

CHILI AND LIBERTY: THE USES AND ABUSES OF MULTICULTURALISM

Sen, Amartya

New Republic February 27, 2006, pp. 25-30

Summary: Indian and British food can genuinely claim to be multicultural, writes Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen, since India had no chili until the Portuguese brought it to India from America, and curry powder is a distinctly English invention, but the two styles, or traditions, co-existing side by side in Britain, must be seen as plural monoculturalism. Integration in Britain, which has been at the forefront of inclusive multiculturalism, has been helped by the fact that all British residents from the Commonwealth countries have full voting rights in Britain, even without British citizenship, and by the nondiscriminatory treatment of immigrants in health care, schooling and social security. But, according to Sen, people are categorized by their religious identity in Britain, which may explain the actions of young Muslims from immigrant families -- born, educated and reared in Britain -- who killed more than 50 people in London in suicide bombings in July 2005. India, on the other hand, with a greater Muslim population than almost every other Muslim-majority country in the world, has produced few homegrown terrorists acting in the name of Islam, and almost none linked with Al Qaeda. The nature of Indian democratic politics and the wide acceptance in India that there are many identities other than religious identity might explain the country's multicultural success. The real issue is not whether multiculturalism has gone too far in Britain, but what particular form multiculturalism should take there. The disastrous consequences of defining people by their religious ethnicity over all other identities, Sen writes, may have come to haunt Britain.

THE CONTEMPORARY PRESIDENCY: THE SIXTH-YEAR CURSE

Shogun, Colleen J.

(Presidential Studies Quarterly, vol. 36, no. 1, March 2006, pp. 89-101)

Summary: Shogun, a university government and politics professor, describes the scandals, economic depressions, and weakened political coalitions that have plagued sixth-year presidents since Ulysses S. Grant. Shogun describes the serious scandals and problems that dogged Presidents Clinton, Reagan, and Nixon and the less calamitous events of the Roosevelt and Eisenhower years. The article includes graphs depicting downturns in numbers of the congressional representatives from the sixth-year president's party during the mid-term elections. Shogun asserts that it is never an easy task to figure out the political prospects of George W. Bush but difficult fifth-years and generally followed by the "cursed" sixth year.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY

Friel, Brian

National Journal vol. 38, no. 9, March 4, 2006, pp. 19-25

Summary: Supporters of U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales regard him as committed to the administration of justice and the war on terrorism, while critics argue that because of his prior position as chief White House counsel, he is serving as the President's defense attorney rather than the nation's top prosecutor. The author compares Gonzales' relationship with President Bush to that of former attorneys general and the presidents that they served under, and uses a graphic to demonstrate the various roles that previous attorneys general have played in the administrations of John F. Kennedy to George W. Bush. Friel concludes that Gonzales' legacy as attorney general may depend not on whether he is too close to the president to be effective as his opponents argue, but whether or not that closeness "ultimately benefits the nation."

DEMOCRACY IN THE ROUGH

Marr, Phebe

Current History vol. 105, no. 687, January 2006, pp. 27-33

Summary: The author describes the various players in Iraq's new democratic process, and discusses the January 2005 elections, which established a transitional assembly and produced two winners, the United Iraqi Alliance, a coalition of predominantly Shiite parties, and a more cohesive Kurdish party. The election highlighted regional, ethnic and sectarian patterns of voting, which was underscored when Iraqis voted in October on the draft constitution. The December

2005 election for a permanent assembly saw strong participation by the Sunni population, which was largely absent in the January election. The difficult process of forming a government lies ahead for the Iraqis, and it will determine the direction of the country. Marr surmises that the desire for power and control will win out over ideological orientation. Iraq has shifted to the politics of cultural identity; compromises will be difficult and will take time and may also require diplomatic pressure from outside.

THE DYNAMICS OF POLITICAL CORRUPTION: RE-EXAMINING THE INFLUENCE OF DEMOCRACY

Blake, Charles; Martin, Christopher

Democratization vol. 13, no. 1, February 2006, pp. 1-14

Summary: Political scientists Blake and Martin use the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) to study democracy's influence on the probability of corruption. The authors argue that there is little to support the prevailing wisdom that democratic regimes hold governing officials more accountable than autocratic ones. They demonstrate that economic and cultural variables are a more predictable check on corruption than the role of democracy. However, the authors make a strong case that it is the consolidation of a "vital democratic process over time that has a robust, negative relationship with corruption." They note that democratic governments in Portugal and Spain have made significant progress in reducing perceived corruption. Other countries undergoing democratization and economic liberalization in recent years, such as Chile, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland, show that democracies, sooner or later, are more likely to develop the institutions and norms that tend to limit corruption. Building an enduring democracy alone is not a panacea for controlling corruption, they note, citing Italy as a case in point.

ENGAGING AUTOCRATIC ALLIES TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY

Adesnik, David; McFaul, Michael

(Washington Quarterly, vol. 29, no. 2, Spring 2006, pp. 7-26)

The U.S. should improve its efforts to promote democracy abroad, especially under regime-change conditions and in autocratic allies such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Algeria and Pakistan, through diplomatic engagement, according to authors Adesnik and McFaul. NGOs lack the ability to confront regimes directly, but the U.S. government can challenge autocratic regimes through what Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has called transformational diplomacy. Although U.S. diplomats often underestimate their leverage, allowing their preference for stability to blind them to a regime's vulnerabilities, write Adesnik and McFaul, using close ties with a regime to exert pressure can influence the course of political liberalization. The authors look closely at Cold War democratic breakthroughs in the Philippines, South Korea and Chile, and suggest that U.S. officials should engage autocratic allies while pushing for evolutionary change as a preemptive strategy to avoid revolutionary change.

INFORMATION WARFARE

Guardiano, John

American Enterprise Vol. 17, No. 2, March 2006, pp. 36-37

Summary: The author, who served in Iraq with the Marine Corps Reserve, asserts that many armed-forces personnel who have served in Iraq believe that we are winning the war, and are confident that the mission will result in self-rule by the Iraqis. What they are not so confident of, he tells, is the resolve and commitment of America's media and political establishments. Guardiano believes that the media portrayal of our military's efforts in Iraq has been "relentlessly negative and very misleading," and the "gloominess and pessimism is pronounced among the media elites of Washington and New York." He asserts that "imbalances are everywhere," citing various examples of the media's focus on the negatives; notes that the latest "scandal," the U.S. military's alleged insertion of favorable articles in the Iraqi press as nothing more than a choice it made to "work within Iraq's nascent and fledgling civil society to try to ensure that Iraqis hear truthful and balanced accounts of what is happening." Guardiano believes that Iraq is "a war of information and ideas ... we can win in Iraq, but not if we surrender in the media war."

MEASURING PUBLIC INTEGRITY

Camerer, Marianne

Journal of Democracy vol. 17, no. 1, January 2006, pp. 152-64

Summary: The author, cofounder and international director of the NGO Global Integrity, provides a detailed explanation of the Public Integrity Index, the centerpiece of the Global Integrity Report, which is a culmination of her research on governance. The Public Integrity Index measures positive rather than negative factors, both qualitative and quantitative, and currently covers 25 countries. For a democratic state to endure, it must govern effectively; poor governance is characterized by corrupt leadership and lack of funds and technical capacity, but good governance is harder to define or measure. Citizens, not just foreign donors or international organizations, need to see their governments perform better, especially in developing countries. Those governments must learn to use scarce resources effectively; ordinary people are increasingly aware that mismanagement and abuse of public trust are costly.

POLL POSITIONS

Newport, Frank

American Legion Magazine vol. 160, no. 3, March 2006, pp. 16-20

Summary: This article summarizes the origin of polling and the usefulness of public opinion polls, especially in the context of political process. The author explains the methodology of polling, from the rationale behind random sampling to the legitimacy and validity of extrapolated results. Polling has become an integral part of the political process in the U.S., providing an essential means for voters to tell elected officials to pay more attention to public opinion, not special interests, and a way for politicians to maintain a dialogue with the public. Newport asserts that "paying attention to the collected wisdom of the people has a higher probability of guiding our society in the right direction in the long term" and the best way to measure that is with scientific polls.

PRIVACY EROSION: A 'NET LOSS

Tessler, Joelle

(CQ Weekly, vol. 64, no. 8, February 20, 2006, pp. 480-485)

According to Tessler, Congress has fallen behind in applying privacy laws to the ever-evolving Internet technology. This results in government's ability to tap private information from e-mail storage, Internet search engine logs, and online wiretapping. Since most targeted individuals are not aware that they are being tracked, there haven't been many court cases to shed stronger light on the situation. Although a number of lawmakers in Congress recognize this as a problem, "it doesn't attract a lot of attention or excitement," notes Sen. John Sununu (R-NH). However, with more high-profile cases, like Google resisting subpoenas, stronger focus would be set on privacy protection.

STRENGTHENING PROTECTION OF IDPS: THE UN'S ROLE

Cohen, Roberta

(Georgetown Journal of International Affairs, Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter/Spring 2006, pp. 101-109)

The author, a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution and Co-Director of the Brookings-Bern Project on Internal Displacement, describes the plight of the 20-25 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), noting that providing them with food, medicine and shelter, while ignoring violent abuse, has led to the tragic description of them as the "well-fed dead." Cohen cites U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan's description of IDPs as often falling "into the cracks between different humanitarian bodies" in his 2005 report on UN reform, IN LARGER FREEDOM, but points out that the 2005 U.N. World Summit document does not deal with how to improve the UN's ability to address their plight. Cohen concludes that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees needs the authority, resources and international military support to expand its role with IDPs; she points out that "a more reliable and predictable system for those trapped inside borders will require stronger legal, institutional, and protection measures from the international community."

WASHINGTON'S RULES PUT THE SQUEEZE ON STATES

Adams, Rebecca

CQ Weekly Vol. 64, No. 10, March 6, 2006, pp. 586-7

Summary: The author notes that the Bush administration's push to limit the ability of people to sue is raising the ire of supporters of states' rights, and is generating opposition across the political spectrum. State officials feel blindsided by the administration's use of the arcane federal rulemaking process, and critics view this as another attempt to shield corporations from litigation. In fact, the most pointed criticism of the administration's use of agency rulemaking to preempt state laws comes from conservative lawmakers and academics on the political right, who lament that the White House is betraying the ideal of decentralizing government, and predict the rules designed to limit lawsuits will trigger expensive legal challenges.

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND TRADE

AGAINST MORE AID: WHY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE SHOULD NOT BE TRIPLED

Verweij, Marco; Gyawali, Dipak

(Harvard International Review, vol. 27, no. 4, Winter 2006, pp. 26-30)

The authors address two main arguments against large-scale development. First, many low-income countries are hobbled by corrupt governance and uncompetitive markets which only benefit the rich. Second, donor agencies tend to favor development projects that are overly expensive and not sustainable. These criticisms come from all sides, they write, but now large-scale financial assistance for poor countries has suddenly resurfaced on political agendas. The authors say these plans should be abandoned as they suffer from the same weaknesses as the much-maligned aid efforts of the 1990s. When bureaucracies are obliged to spend massive amounts of money, they do just that, without regard to any economic, social, or environmental consequences. Foreign aid spending has increased over the past decade, they note, but the lack of good governance in recipient countries makes the aid ineffective. Small amounts of well-targeted development aid to accountable governments will be effective, they say. Despite the poor governance in much of Africa that renders most forms of development assistance ineffective, targeted donor campaigns against HIV/AIDS and other diseases have enjoyed perhaps the most success and show the importance of well-targeted aid. Rather than large-scale aid, the authors recommend economic reforms, such as opening up the markets of rich countries, ousting corrupt leaders, abolishing heavy debt burdens and improving interactions between the state and markets and civil societies.

AID AND GROWTH: THE POLICY CHALLENGE

Rajan, Raghuram

Finance & Development Vol. 42, No. 4, December 2005, pp. 53-55

Summary: Rajan, Director of the International Monetary Fund's research department, notes there is general agreement among economists that there is little evidence of a robust unconditional effect of aid on growth. He emphasizes that aid effectiveness studies need to distinguish between causality and correlation when interpreting country studies. Despite extensive country studies, no one has found a "magic bullet" for growth, he writes, but there are clearly some things that seem important such as good governance, sensible macroeconomic management, laws and policies that support a positive business environment, and an economy open to international trade. Rajan recommends rich countries should make policies that meet these requirements an essential condition for aid, but cautions against micromanaging or being too prescriptive. Available online at: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2005/12/straight.htm>

BANK HEIST

Rich, Bruce

(The Environmental Forum, vol. 22, no. 5, September/October 2005, pp. 28-35)

Rich, director of International Program at Environmental Defense, says corruption -- both in

international development lending and embedded in the international economy itself -- threatens hopes for poverty alleviation and sustainable development. According to Congressional testimony, crooked contractors and bureaucracies in borrowing nations have stolen over \$100 billion from the World Bank over the past five decades; and, ongoing theft from lending from multilateral development banks may total 20-30 percent, he reports. It's not just corrupt Third World elites, either, he says -- western international banks facilitate corrupt and illegal financial capital flight from poor nations at an estimated \$500-\$600 billion a year. The current anti-corruption efforts may punish a token few, he asserts, but they don't even begin to resolve this interdependent culture of corruption in the international economy.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES: WORKING TOWARD CLEAN, ABUNDANT, RELIABLE, AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY

Fischer, James; Finnell, Janine

Resource Vol. 13, No. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 9-10

Summary: The authors say worldwide energy use could grow by more than fifty percent -- with U.S. energy use expected to increase by a third -- in the next two decades. Increased global demand presents challenges to find new ways to increase energy efficiency, decrease carbon dioxide emissions, and replace aging electric grids that are growing increasingly vulnerable to power outages, they write. Technological advances are creating opportunities to transform energy consumption and production through such things as fuel cells, renewable energies, new lighting options, and distributed power networks, they explain. Energy policies can help accelerate these technologies by encouraging research and development, providing market-based incentives and educating consumers, the authors note.

AN ENERGY REVOLUTION

Zubrin, Robert

American Enterprise Vol. 17, No. 2, March 2006, pp. 16-20

Summary: Zubrin, President of aerospace engineering and research firm Pioneer Astronautics, says energy independence can be achieved today if Congress would mandate car manufacturers produce flexible-fuel vehicles (FFVs), which use a mix of gasoline and methanol and/or ethanol. This would enable us to take the world off the petroleum standard, effectively defunding Middle Eastern terrorists, he says. Zubrin writes that the technology already exists -- the problem is the lack of availability of high-alcohol fuel mixes at the pump, discouraging potential buyers of FFVs, and filling-station owners can't justify dedicating a pump to a fuel few will use. Mandating FFV standards would eliminate this stalemate, and initiate major changes in the global automobile industry, as foreign car manufacturers started producing FFVs for the U.S. market. Zubrin says switching to an alcohol-based economy would have many advantages: the U.S. would become the world's largest fuel exporter; our trade deficit would be reversed; world economic power would shift to the West; conditions in developing countries would improve, as greater demand for agriculture would spur development; air pollution would be significantly reduced; and most importantly, we would achieve greater independence from the Middle East.

FINANCING HOPE: IMPROVING MICROFINANCE

Hertz-Bunzl, Noah

Harvard International Review Vol. 27, No. 4, Winter 2006, pp. 32-34

Summary: Hertz-Bunzl says microfinance has enjoyed a recent boom throughout Africa, but poor loan management and lack of critical innovation have limited its reach. Microfinance needs to improve in order to reach its potential to alleviate poverty, he states. For example, microfinance banks must operate in a sustainable manner, which means aligning interest rates with repayment rates to ensure they remain in the black -- and driving both of those rates in the right direction by insisting on collateral and following through by collecting from loan defaulters. Additionally, increased availability and use of banking services, such as credit, money transfers and checking accounts, is essential to encourage savings and increase productivity, he writes. The cash-only, subsistence economy of much of rural Africa is a major obstacle in the fight against poverty, says Hertz-Bunzl, but banks can help by implementing innovative ideas such as integrating village institutions into their operations.

HOME-GROWN GROWTH: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS TO ECONOMIC GROWTH

Rodrik, Dani

Harvard International Review vol. 27, no. 4, Winter 2006, pp. 74-77

Summary: Rodrik, a professor of international political economy at Harvard University, discusses development problems. He addresses questions such as human rights vs. economic development; the role of trade liberalization in spurring economic growth; the failure of the Washington Consensus; the role of foreign aid in poverty alleviation; and the need for democracy and strong institutions for sustainable successful economies. A lot of development has to do with accountability, giving people a sense of ownership, a stake and a voice in the community -- and that is what democracy is all about, he writes.

MONEY TALKS: REVALUING CHINA'S CURRENCY

Sharma, Shalendra

Georgetown Journal of International Affairs Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter/Spring 2006, pp. 59-64

Summary: The author, a professor in the Department of Politics at the University of San Francisco, analyzes the controversy surrounding the exchange rate of China's currency, the yuan, including recent changes, the effect on the U.S. trade deficit, and future expectations. Since the under-valued yuan has contributed to the recent acceleration in China's GDP growth rate, the excessive growth in credit, and the "overheating" caused by large capital inflows, the author argues that now is a good time for revaluation. There is also considerable pressure from U.S. manufacturers and lawmakers who contend that the under-valued yuan amounts to an unfair trade subsidy. However, Sharma notes, a revalued yuan could also spell trouble for the U.S., since a more expensive yuan not only means higher prices for Chinese goods, but greater domestic U.S. inflationary pressures. Sharma also suggests that an appreciated yuan might be counterproductive for the U.S., because Asian central banks might then sell their dollar assets; it might also lead to higher oil prices, since China would increase its imports because oil would become relatively cheaper. It is likely that any revaluation will be gradual.

THE SINO-AMERICAN GAME OF FINANCIAL CHICKEN

Wachtel, Howard M.

New Perspectives Quarterly Summer 2005, pp. 58-60

Summary: The author, a professor of economics at American University, believes that China, as an emerging economic superpower, is entangled with the United States in a financial relationship so complex that to try to unravel it would cause financial disaster. When the Chinese Communist Party merged its political authoritarianism with managed market economics in the 1980s, one of the beneficiaries was U.S. companies that entered the Chinese market with the support of U.S. government policy, he says. By the 1990s, U.S. companies were far ahead of other countries in benefiting by the explosive growth of production in China. However, explains Wachtel, Chinese imports are mostly created by American companies in China, sold in the United States as imports, then counted as imports just like any other product made by foreign companies. In turn, American jobs and income are lost through such outsourcing. If the U.S. places undue pressure on China or slows down the rate of Chinese imports, he warns, it risks losing the financial foundation on which its debt-ridden economy prospers. If China retaliates by diversifying out of U.S. debt into the stronger euro, it could risk a financial fallout in the United States that would have consequences for its prosperity from reduced imports from China. He notes that political pressure has increased because of the further expansion of Chinese textile imports following a WTO-mandated end in 2005 of the 1974 Multifiber Agreement that established quotas on textile imports.

TERRORIST FINANCING: HOW THE NEW GENERATION OF JIHADISTS FUNDS ITSELF

Napoleoni, Loretta

(RUSI Journal, vol. 151, no. 1, February 2006, pp. 60-65)

Napoleoni reviews the policies implemented to combat terrorist financing since 9/11 and argues that they are obsolete because the structure of terrorism financing is no longer transnational, but deeply rooted in individual countries. Failure of the international community to pursue a unified

strategy resulted in lost opportunities and fractured anti-money laundering efforts, she says. The United States, through the Patriot Act, successfully implemented a comprehensive anti-money laundering program, she writes, but this only shifted the terrorist finance epicenter to Europe because no other country adopted similar legislation. Today, jihadists with no links to Al-Qaeda find it easier to fund themselves with criminal activities than to contact Al-Qaeda and ask for money, she explains; anyway, small-scale attacks such as the London and Madrid bombings just don't cost that much. The London bombings, for example, were almost fully funded from the salaries of those who perpetrated them, notes Napoleoni. This pattern of funding, and the dynamic methods still evolving, means the post-9/11 counterterrorism funding policies will not be effective, and she suggests novel measures aimed primarily at preventing the indoctrination of young Muslims may obtain better results.

USAID REVISITED

Kumar, Raj

Georgetown Journal of International Affairs Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter 2006, pp. 51-57

Summary: Kumar, President of the Development Executive Group, says that given the current volume of U.S. foreign aid and its growing importance to national security, two basic things need to happen: unify all aid programs within USAID, and make the USAID administrator a cabinet-level position. As currently configured, he notes, U.S. aid programs suffer from "project proliferation" (many agencies funding many small projects across too many recipient countries), which results in aid fragmentation and reduces both efficiency and effectiveness. Kumar says the USAID administrator needs a seat at the policy table to ensure a strong development voice in foreign policy. Additionally, he explains, Congress needs to stop micromanaging special aid projects through earmarks and allow the experts who manage overall development efforts the flexibility to spend funds where they can best meet policy goals.

WAR, TRADE AND UTOPIA

Lynn, Barry C.

National Interest no. 82, Winter 2005/06, pp. 31-38

Summary: The author, a senior fellow at New America Foundation, argues that the production systems of the vitally important electronics industry for both the United States and China has become dangerously intertwined and interdependent. Any conflict in or around the Taiwan Strait that resulted in a break in trade would cause the "computing equivalent of Mutually Assured Destruction" with extreme damage to both economies, he says. If the United States and China do in fact depend on the same means of production, explains Lynn, the political ramifications are immense, as raw trade flows continue to grow dramatically and the number of firms that have adopted super-specialized production models similar to those of the electronics industry has increased. This is a shocking transformation from the industrial division that existed as late as 1993, he notes. Since then, he writes, there has been a normalization of trade relations between the United States and China -- among other developments -- which has fostered the situation today.

THE WORLD BIDS FAREWELL TO THE MULTIFIBER ARRANGEMENT

Mcdonald, Stephen

Amber Waves vol. 4, no. 1, February 2006, pp. 20-25

Summary: The author, with the Economic Research Service at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, notes that clothing is one of life's necessities -- and as such, a new trade policy that lowers clothing prices affects everyone. Such a change took place in early 2005, as the U.S., Canada, and the European Union discontinued most of their limits on the imports of yarn, fabric, and clothing from developing countries. Under the Multifiber Arrangement (MFA), signed in 1974, trade in textiles, primarily yarn and fabric, and clothing was managed through quotas. But, January 1, 2005, marked the end of a ten-year phase-out of the MFA quotas under the direction of the World Trade Organization. Most economists analyzing the MFA agree that free trade in textiles and clothing will mean significantly larger exports by China, India and Pakistan, while higher income exporters like Taiwan, Korea and Hong Kong will export less. The same is true of countries with preferential access to the U.S. and EU markets.

GLOBAL ISSUES / INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

ANOTHER WAY TO STOP TERRORISM

Mortenson, Greg

Parade March 5, 2006, pp. 4-5

Summary: In 1993, the author fell ill on a mountain-climbing expedition on K2, and was nursed back to health by villagers in remote northern Pakistan; deeply grateful, he then devoted more than a decade to building schools in some of the most anti-American regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. He recently revisited the area after the devastating earthquake that struck Pakistan in the fall of 2005. Though all the schools his organization built survived, thousands of other buildings collapsed, killing tens of thousands. He praises the efforts of the U.S. military in bringing aid, but notes that much more needs to be done, as "our own security depends on it." In a sidebar, adapted from his recent book on his work in Pakistan, *THREE CUPS OF TEA*, Mortenson writes that "we Americans think you have to accomplish everything quickly ... I had much more to learn from the people I work with than I could ever hope to teach to them."

BE WORRIED. BE VERY WORRIED. EARTH AT THE TIPPING POINT

Kluger, Jeffrey, et al.

(Time, April 3, 2006, pp. 28/62)

In this cover-story special series of articles on global warming and climate change, TIME writers and photographers paint the most alarming picture to date of the changes taking place around the world. The authors note that "the debate is over -- global warming is upon us with a vengeance", writing that climatic disruptions are now feeding off one another; scientists, who have been warning about this for decades, now fear that we may have reached a point of no return. The authors explain how the planet has tipped into this crisis so quickly, and what can and is being done to mitigate the effects of global climate change.

THE GENE HUNTERS

Halpern, Sue

New Yorker December 12, 2005, pp. 84-91

Summary: As the population ages, the incidence of Alzheimer's disease is expected to double in 25 years. Although research has identified some of the disease risk factors, the reasons why normal protein becomes toxic to nerve cells remain elusive. The article describes the efforts of a multinational team based at Columbia University to compile the world's most comprehensive genetic library of families with the disease. Representing the disciplines of neurology, particle physics, epidemiology, and computer modeling, the team collects, analyzes, and stores genetic data they have gathered from family groups affected by Alzheimer's. Through their ongoing research and by making the information accessible to other researchers, the team hopes to find solutions to this genetic puzzle.

THE HIGH COST OF CHEAP COAL

(National Geographic, vol. 209, no. 3, March 2006, pp. 96-123)

Supplies of oil and natural gas are tight because of skyrocketing worldwide demand, and their cost is soaring. Coal, still in plentiful supply, is making a comeback, but this two-part series of articles notes that there will be a high environmental cost of returning to coal in a big way. In *THE COAL PARADOX*, Tim Appenzeller writes of the threat that large numbers of coal-fired power plants around the world pose to global climate, and the new "clean-coal" technologies that might reduce or eliminate the emissions of carbon dioxide, sulfur and mercury from burning coal. In *WHEN MOUNTAINS MOVE*, John Mitchell describes the environmentally destructive "mountaintop-removal" method of coal mining that has been taking place in recent years in the Appalachian region of the eastern U.S.

INVASION OF THE COMPUTER SNATCHERS

Krebs, Brian

Washington Post Magazine February 19, 2006, pp. 10-15, 23-29

Summary: Nearly all criminal commerce on the Internet is being driven by "botnets" -- networks of hijacked home computers, known as robots or "bots". Most of the botnets are created by hackers in the U.S. and abroad, who troll the Internet, looking for vulnerable computers to take over. The botnets, often consisting of tens of thousands of hijacked computers, are used to distribute millions of junk e-mails, spyware and adware. The author notes that computer-security firms and law-enforcement authorities are spending more and more time combating botnets; they often face the dilemma of whether to shut them down right away, or monitor them for a period of time in order to gather intelligence that would enable them to track down the criminals behind them.

IS YOUR LIFE TOO LOUD?

McGrath, Tom

(msn.com Health and Fitness, posted March 15, 2006)

There is little question that life has grown louder in recent years, notes the author, "thanks to everything from the jets that roar over our heads to the iPods that blast in our ears." In the 1950s, the typical sound level in movie theaters was around 70-75 decibels; now, the average level is 85 decibels, with spikes up to 130 decibels -- "just a few less than a jackhammer." Not only is this resulting in greater hearing loss -- some 30 million Americans are affected -- but McGrath notes that there is more evidence that loud noise triggers stress responses in the human body, and may cause sleep disorders, high blood pressure and heart disease. People exposed routinely to noise such as automobile traffic, and not necessarily at ear-splitting levels, exhibit heightened symptoms of stress. Some researchers hypothesize that constant noise can cause a thickening of the heart walls and coronary blood vessels, which is the "body trying to stabilize itself against the vibrations of the noise." Many researchers urge the public to be much more vigilant about protecting themselves from loud noise; says one, "I'd like to see earplugs become as common as sunglasses or sunscreen."

THE KNOWLEDGE

Williams, Mark

(Technology Review, vol. 109, no. 1, March/April 2006, pg. 44-53)

According to the author, biotechnology's advance could give malefactors the ability to manipulate life processes -- and even affect human behavior. Williams tells the story through interviews with Sergei Popov, who for nearly 20 years developed genetically engineered biological weapons for the Soviet Union and is now working in the U.S. Popov's accounts of what the Russians accomplished in producing genetically engineered bioweapons are important now, Williams says, because the achievements show what is possible, and all can be accomplished today with time and money. The growing scientific consensus is that biotechnology -- especially the technology to synthesize ever-larger DNA sequences -- has advanced to the point that terrorists and rogue states could engineer dangerous novel pathogens. He describes the Soviet bioweapons program, which involved plague, Ebola virus, and even concepts of subtle bioweapons that modified behavior by targeting the nervous system, inducing effects like temporary schizophrenia, memory loss, heightened aggression, immobilizing depression, or fear, or pacification of a subject population. Just as a revolution in "targeting specificity" (targeting is the process of engineering molecules to recognize and bind to particular types of cells) is creating new opportunities in pharmaceuticals, it is advancing the prospects for chemical and biological weapons.

LITTLE GREEN MOLECULES

Collins, Terrence; Walter, Chip

Scientific American Vol. 294, No. 3, March 2006, pp. 82-90

Summary: Many manufacturing waste products persist in the environment, and some are toxic to animals and people. Health effects from such toxins are widely recognized, spurring efforts to reduce contamination and develop less-polluting processes. The authors, scientists at Carnegie Mellon University, describe their 15-year effort to construct synthetic enzymes to break down

toxic compounds into nontoxic constituents. They developed enzyme-like catalysts called TAML activators that combine with oxygen and hydrogen peroxide to destroy compounds such as pesticides and dyes. Also, tests show that TAMLs are very effective in killing bacterial spores similar to anthrax, suggesting potential use against bioterrorist attack. The activators are less complex, easier and cheaper to make, and more versatile than natural enzymes. Although they are considered "green" -- environment friendly -- these activators require more large-scale testing to determine their impact and ensure that they do not create pollution that has not yet been observed.

MEDIA IN CONFLICT: INCITING VIOLENCE IN KOSOVO

Salhani, Claude

Georgetown Journal of International Affairs Vol. 7, No. 1, Winter/Spring 2006, pp. 33-39

Summary: The author, editor of the United Press International Intelligence Desk, points out the symbiotic nature of the relationship between the media and politicians and stresses the influence of the media in humanitarian crises. He contrasts the success in reporting on the NATO intervention in Kosovo in 1999 with the so-called "March Incident" also in Kosovo in 2004. Salhani notes that the media played a major role in shaping American perceptions of the 1999 Kosovo campaign as a "just war," unlike the U.S. intervention in Iraq. But in 2004, following an incident in which some ethnic Albanian boys drowned while crossing a river after playing in a predominately Serbian area, the Albanian-language media, "instead of reporting the story as the sad accident that it was, blew it out of proportion." This led to riots in which nineteen people were killed, about 600 wounded, thousands were evicted from their homes, and 35 Serbian Orthodox churches burned. After a review of the role of the media in the situation, the author was brought to the region to conduct a 10-day crash course on journalistic ethics.

MY CROWD, OR PHASE 5: A REPORT FROM THE INVENTOR OF THE FLASH MOB

Wasik, Bill

(Harper's, March 2, 2006, pp. 56-66)

A flash mob is defined as "a public gathering of complete strangers, organized via the Internet or mobile phone, which performs a pointless act and then disperses again." In fact, as reported by the author, who claims to have created the first flash mob in New York City in June 2003, the flash mob can be variously a daring media experiment, an exercise in performance art, and a marketing opportunity co-opted by major corporations. Wasik describes the logistics of organizing a flash mob event, how it evolved from an obscure prank limited to a few of the author's friends into a phenomenon that migrated to other cities throughout the United States, and the breathless coverage that flash mobs generated on blogs and mainstream newspapers. Although lighthearted in tone, the article raises interesting questions about the surprising uses of communications technologies and the impact of their social effects.

NEXT STEPS FOR THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY

Assadourian, Erik

World Watch Vol. 19, No. 2, March/April 2006, pp. 16-20

Summary: As the last in the series on "The Evolving Corporation", the author examines how corporations are changing their behaviors and strategies regarding social responsibility. Some efforts are cosmetic, but some have resulted in real change while attempting to become not just eco-efficient, but "eco-effective". The eco-effective movement acknowledges environmental constraints and then redesigns goods and processes to follow the laws of nature. A few innovative companies are already on that path and some have worked with The Natural Step organization to implement more sustainable operations. Shareholders and organizations such as The Center for Political Accountability have pressured corporations to act in socially responsible ways, but there continues to be inconsistencies between corporate lobbying efforts and publicly stated goals. Less than 10 percent of the biggest companies are transparent in their lobbying and political expenditures, but some trailblazers in corporate responsibility have been more open and willing to improve. However, without a reward system, it is unlikely that many of the 69,000 transnational corporations will undertake the next steps required for a sustainable future.

THE OUTLOOK ON OIL

Motavalli, Jim

E: The Environmental Magazine Vol. 17, No. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 26-38

Summary: The author notes that the age of cheap oil is over; global demand is soaring, and oil producers are struggling to keep up. World demand for oil is likely to grow 50 percent by 2025, yet Motavalli notes that some experts believe that global oil production may reach a peak in the near future and begin to decline, due to depletion. A debate is raging on whether the world has already reached an "oil peak" and that development of new oil sources will not keep pace with world energy requirements. Some are concerned that Saudi Arabia has already "peaked", and that projections that rely heavily on future Saudi oil production are unrealistic. While there is still plenty of oil, much of the remaining reserves are in hard-to-reach reservoirs, or are difficult to refine. A number of books and websites have recently emerged to dissect peak oil scenarios. While the timing of the oil peak is still disputed, most analysts agree that too little oil is chasing too much demand and that U.S. dependence on cheap oil has dire consequences for every aspect of the U.S. economy. Finding the political will to address future energy challenges is not likely given the influence of the oil companies in Washington. The article contains four sidebars -- on the future of biodiesels (limited); the development of oil sands in Alberta, Canada; the role of energy conservation; and alternatives such as hydrogen, ethanol and electric vehicles.

PEAK OIL FORUM

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World Watch Vol. 19, No. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 9-24

Summary: World Watch Magazine highlights the debate on peak oil, presenting five authors of moderate, yet differing viewpoints. Editor Tom Prugh notes that, despite varying opinions as to future scenarios, there is general agreement that the world will reach a peak in oil production in this century. If humanity is to make a transition away from fossil fuels, then corporations, governments and consumers must start working about a decade ahead of peak production to avoid significant economic disruption. All articles have excellent and clear presentations of statistical information in layman's terms. In OIL: A BUMPY ROAD AHEAD, Kjell Aleklett, President of the Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas, argues that we need to plan now because of the lead time necessary to make a transition to new energy sources. Red Cavaney, President and CEO of the American Petroleum Institute, notes in GLOBAL OIL PRODUCTION ABOUT TO PEAK? A RECURRING MYTH that new technologies have made it easier to recover oil that previously could not be reached and that any energy transition will be market-driven since substitutes will become more cost-competitive than oil. In OVER THE PEAK, Christopher Flavin, President of the Worldwatch Institute, writes that it is difficult to project when world oil production will peak without reliable international reporting standards on oil reserves, and that other energy sources, such as methane hydrates and oil sands, could speed up global warming. Robert K. Kaufmann, Professor at Boston University, writes in PLANNING FOR THE PEAK IN WORLD OIL PRODUCTION that oil production will peak in our lifetime, since not enough new reserves are in development, and that policy makers must encourage a reduction in energy consumption and plan for alternatives. In PEAK OIL: A CATASTROPHIC CULT AND COMPLEX REALITIES, Vaclav Smil, Professor at the University of Manitoba, says that doomsayers who argue that the world has already reached an oil peak are not taking into account market economics, technology development and the capacity for human innovation.

PROTECTING NEW ORLEANS

Fischetti, Mark

Scientific American Vol. 294, No. 2, February 2006, pp. 64-71

Summary: Millions of people worldwide live on river deltas that are vulnerable to flooding as human activity contributes to land sinking and sea levels rising. When Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans in August of last year, levees (dikes) protecting the city failed during the storm surge, flooding wide areas of the city; loss of life and property was substantial. Plans are being developed to reconstruct and improve the levee system to protect from surges caused by category 5 storms, as well as restore coastal marshes that provide a natural buffer to hurricanes.

Fischetti, a Scientific American contributing editor, reviews storm surge defenses used in other countries, which experts suggest should be considered for New Orleans. Diagrams illustrate floating and sluice gates used along the Netherlands coast, hydraulic disks on the River Thames near London, and flaps being installed to protect Venice, Italy. He notes the need to coordinate physical protection across governmental jurisdictions, incorporate scientific data into the plans, and address the issues of people living in such vulnerable areas.

THE RETURN OF PATRIARCHY

Longman, Phillip

Foreign Policy No. 153, March/April 2006, pp. 56-65

Summary: The author, a senior fellow at the New America Foundation and author of *THE EMPTY CRADLE: HOW FALLING BIRTHRATES THREATEN WORLD PROSPERITY AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT*, notes that across the globe, people are choosing to have fewer children or none at all. Governments are desperate to halt the trend, but their influence seems to stop at the bedroom door. If this trend continues, it would seem that some societies might become extinct; however, Longman believes that this is unlikely to occur. Instead, he predicts a growing proportion of the next generation will be born into conservative households. As governments hand back functions they once appropriated from the family, notably support in old age, people will find that they need more children to insure their golden years, and they will seek to bind their children to them through inculcating traditional religious values.

WHEN BLOGGERS HIT TOO CLOSE TO HOME

Mitchell, Greg

Editor & Publisher vol. 139, no. 1, January 2006, pp. 20-21

Summary: Bloggers are constantly questioning, proofreading and second-guessing the mainstream media (MSM) in America, and Americans can't seem to get enough of it. Blogging has become such a staple attached to MSM, that it can be easily assumed to be fact-based reporting, rather than what is truly is, opinion-based ranting. The author sees fault in many of the large online news wires, such as The Washington Post and the New York Times, directly linking stories to blogs, pulling readers away from the stories, before they can even finish reading them, and analyze the information reported. He writes, "does the MSM really want to hasten its demise by making criticism of it -- often based on inaccurate information or purely partisan beliefs -- quite so accessible?" The instant analysis, counter-argument, and often-poor judgments that come with MSM support of blogging only undermines reporters and editors and their ethics and dedication to journalism.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

CALM BEFORE THE STORM? REVOLUTIONARY PRESSURES AND GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

Webb, Adam K.

International Political Science Review vol. 27, no. 1, January 2006, pp. 73-92

Summary: The author, lecturer on social studies at Harvard University, takes issue with the conventional wisdom that the global trends towards globalization and democratization make large-scale social revolutions far less likely today than in the past. Indeed, he considers today to be the "calm before the storm," because the very economic, political and cultural trends deemed by most to be emollient may lead to a new wave of revolutions. Webb is particularly concerned with transnational organizations such as the World Trade Organization, whose policies he deems favorable to global capital and the status quo at the cost of the disenfranchised. As a result, Webb sees a loss of nation-state legitimacy and rising social inequality little different than existed in past eras prior to revolutionary upheavals.

CHINA: ETHNIC POLITICS, NATION BUILDING AND ITS GLOBAL ROLE

Metaferia, Getachew

(Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Vol. 29, No. 1, Fall 2005, pp. 36-60)

China has 55 classified ethnic minority groups that reside on 70-80 percent of the country's total land area. In the past, the government has tried to assimilate many of these minorities, leading to separatist sentiment in many border regions. The author believes that China could overcome the potential for disintegration by economic development in the ethnic regions, reducing the disparities and ensuring equality. In general, China's foreign policy is to realize its long-term strategic interests, avoiding hegemonic politics and pursuing low-key diplomacy. Improvements in living conditions can be seen around the country -- such as running water, electricity and phone service -- but millions of people are still living with inadequate resources. China is a superpower in its own right, but its future depends on how it balances its domestic economic needs and demands for democratic rights as well as regional disparities with the external pressure of globalization. If China can continue the trends it began in Africa, such as investing money and development programs, within its own borders and beyond, it will build up the future for its people, land and economy.

CHOOSING TO GO IT ALONE: IRISH NEUTRALITY IN THEORETICAL AND COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Jesse, Neal G.

International Political Science Review vol. 27, no. 1, January 2006, pp. 7-28

Summary: The author presents a case study of twentieth-century Irish foreign policy as a platform to consider the merits of "realist" versus "liberal" theories of international relations, and the added value of comparative perspectives by contrasting Ireland's neutral foreign policy to other neutral states in Europe (Austria, Finland, Sweden, and Switzerland). Jesse concludes that domestic actors, public opinion, and government institutions best explain Ireland's unique path to neutrality, making "liberalism" the most useful analytical paradigm, particularly if coupled with comparative studies.

CORRUPTION IN A THIRD WORLD COUNTRY: WHY NIGERIANS CANNOT HANDLE GARBAGE

Werlin, Herbert H.

World Affairs vol. 168, no. 2, Fall 2005, pp. 79-85

Summary: The author takes issue with the U.N. Millennium Project's advocacy for doubling foreign aid for the world's poorest countries. Using a case study of the challenges facing local authorities in the former Nigerian capital of Lagos, Werlin argues that unless donors pressure countries to address endemic corruption, no amount of foreign aid will improve things. According to Werlin, many reform projects in "politically ill" countries suffer from "political inelasticity" (donor's ineffective management of incentives and disincentives) in the face of "secondary corruption" (corrupt actors in an operating environment where they face little or no possibility of punishment). Werlin proposes more effective foreign aid through the introduction of performance-based mechanisms and competitive processes designed to make aid more "motivational" and less "charitable."

THE EUROPEAN UNION AS A SECURITY ACTOR: SECURITY PROVISION THROUGH ENLARGEMENT

Stefanova, Boyka

World Affairs vol. 168, no. 2, Fall 2005, pp. 51-66

Summary: The author, assistant professor of Political Science at the University of Texas, discusses the question of whether regional integration can solve security issues, and presents a case study of the European Union's post-Cold War eastward expansion to illustrate its role as an independent security actor. Through successive rounds of enlargement in the 1990s, Stefanova traces the EU's centralization of authority through conditions of membership, progressive institutionalization of political and economic interdependencies, and increasing military capacity for direct intervention, both independently and jointly with NATO and OSCE. Continued eastward enlargement, Stefanova concludes, though bedeviled by resource relocations, institutional

restructuring, and the divisive question of "where Europe ends," will continue to enhance regional security well beyond the status of the EU's actual military capabilities.

EUROPE'S MUSLIM POLITICAL ELITE: WALKING A TIGHTROPE

Klausen, Jytte

World Policy Journal Vol. 22, No. 3, Fall 2005, pp. 62-68

Summary: The author, professor of comparative politics at Brandeis University, describes the difficulties faced by moderate Muslims in Europe, noting that only after many years of Muslim immigration have European governments been compelled to accept Islam as a European religion. After conducting interviews with three hundred Muslim political and civic leaders in Britain, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Sweden, Klausen writes that most of them are not native-born descendants of earlier migrants, but arrived as young adults to study at Europe's universities, or as political refugees. She notes that Muslims in Europe do not subscribe to the notion that the religious tend to be politically conservative. Klausen believes that easing naturalization requirements would increase immigrant participation in mainstream political organizations. On the issue of integration into European society, Klausen notes that the consensus among those she interviewed was that ties to Islamic countries had to be cut and ways found to educate imams at European universities, as well as normalizing the legal situation of Islamic centers.

THE FUTURE OF AFGHANISTAN

Jalali, Ali

Parameters Vol. 36, No. 1, Spring 2006, pp. 4-19

Summary: The author, professor at the National Defense University and former Afghan interior minister, analyzes the challenges and opportunities facing Afghanistan, focusing on ways to foster the long-term development of governance, security, and economic growth. Listing recent major accomplishments under the 2001 Bonn Accords, he points out that the country is again at a crossroads, with one road leading to peace and prosperity and the other to "the loss of all that has been achieved." He concludes that Afghanistan can become a success story in the region, but only with international security and economic assistance for at least ten more years, and proposes a compact between the international community and the Afghan government to institutionalize an "overarching strategic plan" that would identify and prioritize programs and the resources needed to accomplish them.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Pillar, Paul

Harvard International Review Vol. 27, No. 4, Winter 2006, pp. 16-21

Summary: The author, former Deputy Chief of the CIA's Counterterrorist Center and Visiting Professor at the Security Studies Program at Georgetown University, notes that in a poll conducted in June 2005, 65 percent of US citizens said that reforming the intelligence services is the best way to strengthen US security significantly. The author suggests that the public is using the intelligence community as a scapegoat, and that more often than not the intelligence reports are not promoting decisions that Capitol Hill and the administration are making, citing the Iraq War as an example. Pillar believes that the real problem with the intelligence community is the "politicized intelligence," the "cherry-picking" of intelligence reports or the pressure for analysts to devote disproportionate time to politically important topics and derive explanations that policymakers want to hear. Pillar believes that the solution lies in the hands of the American people, stating that changes can only occur when the public realizes that there are limits to the intelligence community; "intelligence is a service, not a savior."

HUGO BOSS

Corrales, Javier

Foreign Policy January/February 2006, pp. 32-40

Summary: Hugo Chavez, elected president of Venezuela, has revived authoritarianism in Latin America while continuing to win elections, eliminating "the contradiction between autocracy and political competitiveness," writes Corrales. The author details the acts Chavez has undertaken to

remove any checks on his power while undermining, but not banning, the opposition by polarizing his society, spreading wealth selectively and fostering bureaucratic chaos. In addition, he says, Chavez uses U.S-bashing to unite and distract his followers. The worry is that others, seeing his success, may follow this new, model for modern authoritarianism.

THE PENTAGON PLAYS ITS CHINA CARD

Nolt, James H.

World Policy Journal Vol. 22, No. 3, Fall 2005, pp. 25-33

Summary: The author, a senior fellow at the World Policy Institute who writes about China and Taiwan, argues that the July 2005 Pentagon report on China's military capability presents "an exaggerated case for a Chinese military threat" in order to make a case for funding advanced and expensive weapons systems." In an article with informative subheadings such as "China's Relative Military Decline," "China's Weakness in Air Power," "Impossibility of an Invasion of Taiwan," "Reciprocal Dangers of a Naval Blockade," "A Nuclear Option?," and "Robust Deterrence," he stresses the "incentives against war in East Asia" and contends, "By pretending that China could use force with impunity ... the report actually encourages reckless action by China."

PORT SECURITY IS STILL A HOUSE OF CARDS

Flynn, Stephen E.

Far Eastern Economic Review vol. 169, no. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 5-12

Summary: The author analyzes one of America's weakest areas of counterterrorism, port security, noting that "it is only a matter of time before terrorists breach the superficial security measures in place to protect the ports, ships and the millions of intermodal containers that link global producers to consumers." He argues that the importance of improving trade security is not only a public safety imperative, but also an economic precautionary measure; any attack to a major port could shut down all international trade activity. While measures from the Coast Guard and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency are in place, the actions have been "piecemeal," because "each agency [is] pursuing its signature program with little regard for other initiatives." Flynn finds the solution in a multilateral approach involving ASEAN, the EU and the U.S., which would allow for validation audits to occur. He foresees that this change will result in small economic differences on a corporate level, and large improvements against the possibility of a terrorist attack. Currently available online at <http://www.feer.com/articles1/2006/0601/free/p005.html>

A QUESTION OF CHEMISTRY: CONTROLLING THE SPREAD AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Litman, Leah

Harvard International Review vol. 27, no. 3, Fall 2005, pp. 32-34

Summary: Litman, editor-in-chief of the Harvard International Review, traces the history and use of chemical weapons in warfare. She also provides background on international efforts to control chemical weapons, including the Geneva Protocols and the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). The author feels a multi-layered monitoring mechanism, that can adapt to meet changing circumstances, is essential to control the current and future threat of chemical weapons.

THE STRATEGIC LOGIC OF TAIWANIZATION

Horowitz, Shale; Tan, Alexander

World Affairs vol. 168, no. 2, Fall 2005, pp. 87-95

Summary: The authors, instructors at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the University of Canterbury in New Zealand, respectively, assess the current strategic situation in the Taiwan Strait, weighing Taiwan's options in addressing a potential threat from China. Given China's massive economic and military expansion, the authors see trends toward an "inward" strategy, where the status quo of continued economic integration across the Strait benefits the mainland. However, the authors note that this may not preclude the adoption of an "outward strategy", where China chooses to forcibly integrate Taiwan through a rapid military intervention, particularly if future U.S. administrations choose to appease China by returning to its previous policy of

"strategic ambiguity" on Taiwan's status. To augment the island's position, the authors recommend a three-point strategy they call "Taiwanization:" building military capability and domestic support to make an invasion costly (a "snarling dog posture"); increasing domestic reforms and international outreach to make Taiwan a country worth defending (the "embattled nation posture"); and continue efforts to facilitate cross-straits development of investment and trade ("economic jujitsu").

THIN RANKS

Vest, Jason

Government Executive Vol. 38, No. 1, January 2006, pp. 33-34

Summary: The author writes that the United States' ability to collect intelligence on terrorists is "startlingly weak" -- the U.S. intelligence community has too few spies in the right places, and post-Sept. 11 reforms intended to beef up human intelligence have not done the job. Vest notes that a recent trend within the CIA is the creation of specialized centers and task forces focusing on specific topics -- but many intelligence veterans worry that they are not staffed with knowledgeable people, are focused on the quantity, not the quality of the intelligence, and add extra bureaucratic layers between the case officers and policymakers. Although there has been the creation of a new National Counterterrorism Center under the director of national intelligence, the CIA still uses its own counterterrorism center. Many long-time intelligence officers have left as a result of the low morale and turf battles. All that has happened is a renaming and theoretical reorientation of the CIA's Operations Directorate, Vest notes, not the fundamental philosophical change within the intelligence community that many feel is required.

TRANSFORMING MILITARY DIPLOMACY

Shea, Timothy

(Joint Forces Quarterly, Vol. 38, Third Quarter, July 2005, pp. 49-52)

The growing need for security cooperation and the ongoing war against terrorism have increased the importance of U.S. military attaches serving in embassies around the world, the author says, pointing to examples such as their role coordinating the deployment of U.S. forces to fight the Taliban in Afghanistan and training and equipping soldiers in the Republic of Georgia. "Many countries recognize the strategic importance of their military attaches and send only their best abroad," Colonel Shea writes. Subjects such as security and arms control would be better managed, he said, by trained attaches "with the requisite language skills, cultural knowledge and regional expertise." He also advocates the assignment of higher-ranking officers and urges the military services to view these assignments by soldier-diplomats as career-enhancing. He concludes urging the military attaché corps to "adapt to the strategic environment, which demands skillful military diplomacy and knowledgeable professionals" as they carry out their mission to advise the ambassador, represent the Defense Department overseas, and manage important programs such as the International Military Education and Training and Foreign Military Financing. Currently available online at http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine/jel/jfq_pubs/1138.pdf

TURKISH ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Kubicek, Paul

World Affairs vol. 168, no. 2, Fall 2005, pp. 67-78

Summary: The challenges and opportunities presented by Turkey's bid for membership in the European Union is a heated topic of discussion, which reveals much about the deeper debate about competing visions of European identity. Kubicek provides an excellent primer for newcomers to the issue, and a spirited defense for membership from those critics who reject Turkey as "too big, too poor, too agricultural, too authoritarian, and, perhaps above all, too Muslim."

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IN CENTRAL ASIA: RISK, ENDS, MEANS

Boyer, Allen Lee

(Naval War College Review, Vol. 59, No. 1, Winter 2006, pp. 91-117)

Small and scattered populations, geographic remoteness and a failure to provide a certain level

of political security are sources of weakness for the five states in the heart of Central Asia -- Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. These factors make them candidates for state failure and conflict, which will cause an increase in criminal activity, corruption, poverty, civil strife, radicalism, economic stagnation and environmental destruction. Commander Boyer argues that the United States needs to prevent these nations from failing, because of human rights, their strategic location and their energy resources. The frontiers of these states bordering China, Russia, Iran and Afghanistan are very porous, enabling easy transit by terrorists, criminal organizations and contraband. The U.S. is limited in its ability to effect change in the region due to geopolitics, the nature of the local regimes, and a lack of leverage, notes the author, so it must seek a multilateral approach with the help of non-state actors to promote a unified regional cooperative strategy for all of Central Asia. This strategy should seek unity among all actors and promotion of economic prosperity, regional cooperation, civil society and good governance. Boyer believes that these principles can be accomplished by focusing on two goals: ensuring that Central Asian states do not fail and improving their ability to deliver political goods to their citizens.

UNCOMMON GROUND: INDIVISIBLE TERRITORY AND THE POLITICS OF LEGITIMACY Goddard, Stacie E.

(International Organization, vol. 60, no. 1, Winter 2006, pp. 35-68)

In Jerusalem, Ireland, Kosovo, and Kashmir, indivisible territory underlies much of international conflict. The author notes that whether or not territory appears indivisible depends on how actors legitimate their claims to territory during negotiations. She asserts that although actors choose their legitimations strategically, in order to gain a political advantage at the bargaining table, such strategies can have unintended structural consequences. Legitimizations can either build ties between coalitions and allow each side to recognize the legitimacy of each other's claims, or else lock actors into bargaining positions where they are unable to recognize the legitimacy of their opponent's demands. The authors believes that when the latter happens, actors come to negotiations with incompatible claims, constructing the territory as indivisible. Goddard applies this legitimization theory to Ulster, arguing this territory's indivisibility was not inevitable, but a product of actors' legitimization strategies as they battled for support over the issue of Ireland's right to self-rule.

WHO'S IN CHARGE IN THE KREMLIN?

Bremmer, Ian

World Policy Journal Vol. 22, No. 4, Winter 2005-2006, pp. 1-6

Summary: The author, senior fellow at the World Policy Institute, concludes in a very interesting analysis of the current situation in Russia that "no single person is really firmly in charge in the Kremlin," and "uncertainty will only grow as the next presidential election approaches." Rivalries and division within the power structure and the seemingly intentional undercutting of Putin's efforts to attract foreign investment are having a negative effect on the Russian economy. Growth is forecast to be only 5 percent, even with windfall oil revenues, and inflation is running at 12 percent. The litany of problems goes on -- Chechnya, rampant corruption, and reduced Russian influence in the region. There are also positive developments - free and fair elections, free-market capitalism, civilian control of the military, a pragmatic approach to NATO expansion. Bremmer writes that "these genuine accomplishments offer no guarantee of future stability. As 2008 approaches and Russia reaches another milestone in its post-Soviet development, political uncertainty over what comes next is likely to engender much anxiety and considerable political risk." He concludes that it seems highly unlikely that Putin has either the desire or the ability to stay in office past the end of his term.

U.S. SOCIETY AND VALUES

DAVID ROBINSON: THE PIONEERING SPIRIT CONTINUES

Davis, Kimberly

(Ebony, June 2005, pp. 172-176)

David Robinson, the only surviving son of legendary baseball star Jackie Robinson, is one of the founders of Sweet Unity Farms, a cooperative of 300 small-scale coffee farmers in the Mbozi district of Tanzania, and has worked for years to market their Arabica coffee beans in the U.S. The author notes that, despite the huge global market for coffee, farmers in the developing world make very little money from the sale of their coffee, so a new approach is needed to help them benefit more from the fruits of their labor. David Robinson, using his connections to Major League Baseball, with its long history of diversity initiatives, to find a stable market for his cooperative's coffee in U.S. baseball parks.

THE FRESHMAN

Brown, Chip

New York Times Magazine February 26, 2006

Summary: In 2001, under the sponsorship of a veteran journalist for whom he had worked as a guide and interpreter in Afghanistan, Sayed Rahmatullah Hashemi, then 23 years old, came to the U.S. as a "roving ambassador" for the Taliban, giving speeches around the country to a decidedly mixed reception. In the fall of 2005, with little more than a rudimentary elementary-school-level education in Afghanistan and Pakistan, Rahmatullah was accepted into Yale University in a nondegree program for special students, a culmination of the long-lasting friendship he developed with American reporter Mike Hoover. The author chronicles the extraordinary odyssey of Rahmatullah, born in Afghanistan on the eve of the Soviet invasion. He endured the violence and chaos of the Russian occupation, exile in Pakistan, and the bloody 1990s internecine conflict in Afghanistan; he joined the Taliban, but eventually became disillusioned with them, repulsed by their extreme policies. Of his introduction to the Western mind, Rahmatullah says, "You have to be reasonable to live in America, even the essays you write for class. Back home you have to talk about religion and culture, and you can win any argument if you bring up the Islamic argument. You can't reason against religion. But you cannot change Afghanistan overnight. You can't bring the Enlightenment overnight."

HOW DO I LOVE THEE

Gottlieb, Lori

(Atlantic Monthly, March 2006, pp. 58-70)

The author, a single woman, interviews operators of online and personal matchmaking services and throws her name into the roster while doing so. Gottlieb notes that a new "science" of attraction is being developed by academic researchers and they are being used worldwide. It is still evolving, the author notes, and "it may well take a generation before we learn whether the psychological, anthropological, or sociological model works best". The author, however, was unable to find a suitable match.

JAZZ BRIDGE TO AFGHANISTAN

Odell, Jennifer

Down Beat vol. 73, no. 3, March 2006, p. 20

Summary: This brief article outlines the path-breaking work of "American Voices," an organization founded in 1992 to further the understanding of American music in countries such as Burma, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, and Belarus, that lack opportunities for cultural exchange with the United States. American Voices' most recent trip to Kabul, where pianist and executive director John Ferguson recorded three concerts featuring a combination of Western and Afghan artists, resulted in the CD and DVD, JAZZ BRIDGES AFGHANISTAN. Marked by a number of firsts -- the first performances in Afghanistan by American musicians in over 25 years, the first time Afghan and American artists shared the same stage, and the first time a woman performed

onstage with male musicians -- the tour was also notable for bringing Western music to a country that has lacked a tradition of combining jazz with other types of music.

THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE: "STILL FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT"

Chappell, Kevin

Ebony July 2005, pp. 110-118

Summary: In the early twentieth century, hundreds of thousands of American Blacks left the American South for industrial cities of the North, such as Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland and Detroit. With few skills, the migrants endured harsh living conditions in settings very different from small Southern towns. To help Blacks survive and obtain employment, the Committee on Urban Conditions Among Negroes was formed, which eventually became the National Urban League, which celebrated its 95th anniversary in 2005. Since its inception, the Urban League has been at the forefront of the civil-rights movement, helping African-Americans join the economic and social mainstream. Today the Urban League is as active as ever in dealing with problems such as crime, poverty, public health issues and education.

PHILANTHROPY IN ACTION: MANAGING THE WORKLOAD

Draper, Lee

Foundation News and Commentary vol. 47, no. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 12-19

Summary: The author, president of Draper Consulting Group, offers a number of tips for grantmakers (as well as for everybody else) who are doing more work with smaller staffs. Based on interviews with leading professionals, this article addresses meeting increased demands, maintaining high standards, seeking technological solutions, balancing work with life outside the office, and focusing on priorities. Sidebars provide strategies for handling major time wasters, e-mail, self-care, and workload. "If [a task] is not relevant and essential to carry out the mission, eliminate it," Draper concludes. Available online at

<http://www.foundationnews.org/CME/article.cfm?ID=3518>

THE PREACHER

Pappu, Sridhar

Atlantic Monthly vol. 297, no. 2, March 2006, pp. 92-103

Summary: Characterized as "a man of God, a promoter of upward mobility, an international evangelist, a husband and father, a simple preacher, [and] a sophisticated businessman," Bishop T.D. Jakes is depicted in this profile as a man who "epitomizes and stands at the front of a new generation of black leadership." Born to working-class parents in West Virginia, Jakes, a Pentecostal minister, is head of a 30,000-member nondenominational church. He has also built a lucrative multimedia empire, lectures on economic empowerment and self-healing to hundreds of thousands of people annually, and has spearheaded a growing international outreach program in Europe, Australia, and especially in Africa, where his church has invested over \$1 million in development projects.

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: A CONVERSATION WITH COKIE ROBERTS

Cole, Bruce; Roberts, Cokie

Humanities vol. 27, no. 1, January/February 2006, pp. 6-9, 51-54

Summary: Cole, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, talked with news analyst Cokie Roberts about her recent book, *FOUNDING MOTHERS*, and the importance of women in U.S. political history. Comparing the recent advances of women in politics with the role women played in the early days of the Republic, Roberts also discussed the difficulties of locating the original letters and manuscripts that formed the basis of the book. In a related article, "A Life in Letters: The Story of John and Abigail Adams," Maggie Riechers writes about the influence of Abigail Adams on her husband, President John Adams, throughout their fifty-year marriage.

Available online at <http://www.neh.gov/news/humanities/2006-01/contents.html>

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